

Message Text

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10
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 DLOS-06 SAJ-01 OES-06 /105 W
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R 211000Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4326
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
CINCEUR
CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS ANKARA 5589

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR
SUBJECT: THE SISMİK I - READY TO SAIL?

1. PRIMIN DEMIREL, IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN JULY 21
MILLİYET, SAID THAT HE WAS "HOPEFUL" THAT THE SISMİK I
WOULD SAIL THIS WEEK. AMONG THE OTHER POINTS MADE BY
DEMIREL IN THE INTERVIEW WERE:
""ARE THE HIGH SEAS OUTSIDE TERRITORIAL WATERS GREEK?
NO. NOT SOMEHOW THE GREEKS THINK THE AEGEAN IS THEIR LAKE.
THE AEGEAN IS NOT A GREEK LAKE. I HAVE SAID THIS TIME AND
TIME AGAIN."

--"CARRYING OUT A SEISMIC SURVEY IN THE AEGEAN AND
DRILLING OIL WELLS ARE DIFFERENT THINGS. A SEISMIC SURVEY
IS ONLY LOOKING AT THE SEABED TO SEE WHAT IS THERE, WHAT
THE GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS ARE AND WHAT LIES UNDER IT."
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--"THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE HORA PROSPECTING

IN TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS AND ON THE HIGH SEAS AND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. THE SEABED WILL NOT BELONG TO THE GREEKS IF WE DO NOT CARRY OUT THIS SURVEY, AND LIKEWISE THE ENTIRE SEABED IS NOT TAKEN AWAY FROM THE GREEKS BECAUSE WE ARE PROSPECTING."

--"CERTAINLY IT WILL BE A HOSTILE ACTION IF THEY MAKE THE SLIGHTEST INTERFERENCE WITH THE HORA WHICH IS INVESTIGATING WHAT IS UNDER THE SEA."

--"THE HORA IS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE, THE SEBED IS. IF THEY MAKE A POLITICAL ISSUE OUT OF THE SAILING OF A RESEARCH SHIP INTO THE AEGEAN AND CAUSE HOSTILITIES, THAT WILL PUT US IN A POSITION OF SELF DEFENSE. RESPONSIBILITY WILL REST ENTIRELY WITH THE GREEKS."

--"THE GREEKS CLAIM THAT THEIR RIGHTS WILL BE VIOLATED. WHAT RIGHTS?...NO ONE ACCEPTS THAT THE SEA BELONGS TO THE GREEKS.A COASTAL COUNTRY CANNOT CLAIM A SEA."

2. JULY 21 TERCUMAN QUOTED THE DIRECTOR OF THE ISTINYE SHIP-YARD (WHERE THE SISMİK WAS OUTFITTED) AS SAYING THAT THE SISMİK WOULD SAIL INTO THE AEGEAN THE MORNING OF JULY 21. ON THE OTHER HAND, SAME DAY HURRIYET REPORTS THAT THE VESSEL WOULD SAIL THE EVENING OF JULY 21.

3. JULY 21 CUMHURİYET REPORTS THAT "IT HAS BEEN LEARNED" THAT THE GOG WILL INCREASE ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS FROM SIX MILES TO 12 MILES THIS DATE. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE THE DECISION WAS TAKEN IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SISMİK FROM CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE OPEN WATERS OF THE AEGEAN. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE DRILLING, TERRITORIAL WATERS, SISMII I, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ANKARA05589
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760280-0593
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760739/aaaabhid.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hackerp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 FEB 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE SISMII I - READY TO SAIL?
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR, (DEMIREL, SULEYMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006